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News & Information

LWD Commissioner tours Burlington County One-Stop Career Center

On August 11, 2004, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) Commissioner Kevin P. McCabe toured Burlington County's soon-to-open Business Resource Center, one of 18 centers that will open across the state to meet the needs of small businesses and promote job growth.

McCabe also toured the career center's Workforce Learning Link laboratory, which opened this past January. These labs, funded through New Jersey's Workplace Literacy Program, use personal guidance and high-tech computer learning programs geared to real job needs to help workers expand or hone their skills in math, communications, reading, and computer science.

"Today's tour is a perfect example of our joint mission to expand the skills of workers and meet the needs of businesses," McCabe said.

During the tour at the Burlington County One-Stop Career Center, Commissioner McCabe said the Business Resource Center is a model of the governor's vision for streamlining and simplifying the business community's interactions with government. It will also help to match employers with qualified job-seekers.

"Many small business owners lack the human resource divisions and financial expertise to deal with certain business-related issues," McCabe said. "These centers will work in partnership with economic development authorities, local workforce investment boards, and community colleges to provide business support."

In total, 40 "Learning Link" labs are now open across the state. The McGreevey administration provided \$374,354 in fiscal year 2003 to open the labs.

"The Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and the McGreevey administration recognize that workforce

development is the key to economic development and we are committed to developing a highly-skilled, highly-qualified workforce in New Jersey," McCabe said. "This lab and all the resources of our One-Stop system are here as a resource for the hardworking men and women in Burlington County to develop the skills they need to compete in today's economy."

Commissioner McCabe tours Gloucester County business

LWD Commissioner Kevin P. McCabe toured Direct Group, Inc., a Gloucester County business that received a customized training grant last fall. Direct Group provides direct mail services for businesses.

The company matched the \$245,142 customized training grant with \$442,329 in company funds to train 571 workers, including 141 new hires.

"There is no more important thing we can do for our economy than make sure our workers have the skills they need and businesses are equipped to compete," said Governor James E. McGreevey.

McCabe said the department is working with higher education institutions, business, labor, and local community organizations to make good investments in businesses and workers.

"The McGreevey administration is focusing on training today's workers by providing the skills that will be in demand tomorrow, so that our state is poised to be a leader in providing a highly-skilled and highly-trained workforce to the business community," McCabe said.

Cumberland County College provided the training for the workers in computer skills, communications, and various on-the-job skills.

New system measures training performance of providers

New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) Commissioner Kevin P. McCabe announced that his department has implemented a new

system that measures the performance of New Jersey workforce training providers. The Consumer Report Card, available at www.njtrainingsystems.org, will offer lists of training providers, descriptions of their programs and performance data based on student enrollment and exit information.

The portal was developed collaboratively with the State Employment and Training Commission, LWD, and the Center for Occupational Employment Information.

"Over the past 18 months, we worked to consolidate all workforce development programs under this department to create a system that is easy to navigate, highly efficient, and free of bureaucracy," said McCabe. "Measuring the performance of programs through the Consumer Report Card is the next step in transforming the way workforce training is provided in this state."

Vendors who want to be placed on the training provider list are required to supply basic information, such as a description of the program, its cost, and any special feature of the program. The data is entered through a secure online application process. When individuals are enrolled in training, aggregate information entered into the data system assists in evaluating vendors and programs.

Performance information on training providers is based on past enrollment and exit data. Performance standards representing common, agreed-upon standards for all training providers are under development.

James E. McGreevey
Governor

Kevin P. McCabe
Commissioner

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